

# TECHNICAL

# NOTES

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

IOWA STATE OFFICE

DES MOINES, IOWA.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MATERIAL - FOR USE ONLY WITHIN THE SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE

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AGRONOMY #17

DATE: August 26, 1987

SUBJECT: Plant Dry Matter Values

The enclosed information provides percent air-dry matter for five growth stages of grasses and four growth stages for some trees.

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Percentage of Air-Dry Matter in Harvested Plant Material at Various Stages of Growth

Grasses	Before head- ing; initial growth to boot stage	Headed out; boot stage to flower- ing	Seed ripe; leaf tips drying partly dry	Leaves dry; stems dormacy	Apparent
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Cool season . . .	35	45	60	85	95
wheatgrasses					
perennial bromes					
bluegrasses					
prairie junegrass					
Warm season . . .	30	45	60	85	95
Tall grasses					
bluestems					
indiangrass					
switchgrass					
Mid grasses . . .	40	55	65	90	95
sideoats grama					
tobosa					
galleta					
Short grasses . . .	45	60	80	90	95
blue grama					
buffalograss					
short three-awns					
Trees	Hew leaf and twig growth until leaves are full size	Older and full-size green leaves	Green fruit	Dry fruit	
	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Percent</u>	
Evergreen coniferous . . .	45		55	35	85
ponderosa pine, slash					
pine-longleaf pine					
Utah juniper					
rocky mountain juniper					
spruce					
Live oak . . .	40		55	40	80
Deciduous . . .	40		50	35	85
blackjack oak					
post oak					
hickory					